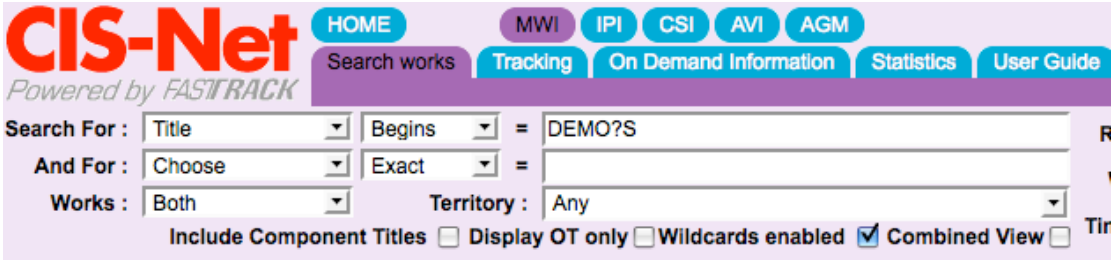
What is a Wildcard?

Wildcards are like the blank pieces in Scrabble, or like the Jokers you can use in some card games to stand in for any card. In terms of search a wildcard is a character or a symbol that can be substituted for either a single character or a string of characters when performing a search in CIS-Net.

Where should I find the option allowing me to perform a search using a wildcard?

The feature allowing searching on partially known titles can be increased by the use of wildcard characters within your search criteria.

First of all you need to enable the wildcard option located here:



Which symbol should I use when performing a Wildcard search?

? The question mark stands for exactly one character (see example 2/ below)
* The asterisk stands for none, one or a string of characters (see example 3/ below)

Several wildcards characters can be combined when performing a search (see example 1/ below)

Wildcard search: Dos and Don't

DOS

Search Mode	Search Criteria	Some Results	Remarks
1/ CONTAINS	KNOCKIN? HEAVEN*S DOOR	KNOCKIN' ON HEAVEN'S DOOR KNOCKING ON HEAVEN S DOOR	Several wildcard characters within one search
2/ BEGINS	TOI L?AMOUR	TOI L AMOUR TOI L AMOUR ET MOI TOI L'AMOUR TOI L AMOUR DE DEMAIN	wildcard ?

Search Mode	Search Criteria	Some Results	Remarks
3/ BEGINS	DON*T	DON'T DON T DON ALBERTI DONT	wildcard *

DON'TS

Search Mode	Search Criteria	Some Results	Remarks
BEGINS	DEMO*	DEMOLITION DEMON DEMONSTRATION	This search is equivalent to the search by Ttitle begins with" DEMO, i.e. the wildcard character is needless
BEGINS	L?AMOUR	Error message: 'First Criteria Input is invalid'	Error message because the wildcard character is located at the second position: the use of wildcard characters is accepted from the fourth position of the search criterion onwards
EXACT	TOI L?AMOUR	Impossible	Wildcard checkbox cannot be enabled with EXACT search

Why and When should I use this type of search?

When you're trying to search for a MWI or AVI work title for which you don't know the exact wording the wildcard will give you some flexibility in your search if you don't want to spend the time searching for all of the possible variations.

Quick Tip

Use the Wildcard Search	If you use the Wildcard Search
When you're trying to search for a MWI or AVI work title for which you don't know the exact wording	Be aware that Searches with wildcard characters may cause a heavy workload on the servers which results in longer response times.

Warning!

- *The blank space is considered as a character*

- *If the wildcard checkbox is enabled the question mark and the asterisk are considered as wildcard characters rather than as a search value. There is no way to combine these features.*

For more information please consult the User Manual (available from the MWI, Help tab), § 2.1.3.3.3